



National Park Service

**U.S. Department of
the Interior**

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National Park Service News Release

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APOLLO DISTRICT OF CANAVERAL NATIONAL SEASHORE TO BE CLOSED FOR PRESCRIBED FIRE

Weather permitting a 1400 acre prescribed fire will be conducted in the Apollo District of Canaveral National Seashore, just south of New Smyrna Beach, between June 13 and June 17, 2013. To ensure public safety, the District will be closed on the day of the operation south of the visitor center. The main boat ramp and Parking Area #1 will remain open.

This will be a joint operation with Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. The purpose is to reduce unnaturally high levels of fuel that could ignite from lightning strikes during the summer. The operation will also improve habitat for a number of protected species. The Volusia County Fire Service, Volusia County Sheriff's Office, Kennedy Space Center, The City of New Smyrna Beach Fire Rescue and Police Department will be notified in advance of the operation.